

Serial No. 10/058,385
Amendment Dated September 7, 2004
Office Action dated May 4, 2004

Docket No. MRE-0052

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-23 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 12 is amended to correct minor informalities, and claims 24-29 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added. Allowance in view of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amended claims is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the amendments: (1) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (2) do not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution without incorporating additional subject matter; (3) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; and/or (4) place the application in better form for appeal if necessary. Entry is thus requested.

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 1-23 are allowed. Rejected claims 24-29 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Carol L. Druzbeck**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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